

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method for transacting an intellectual property service in connection with the filing of documents and/or payment of fees for intellectual property matters relative to one or more target jurisdictions, the method comprising:

determining one or more intellectual property matters;

providing, responsive to the determination, a user with information representative of one or more intellectual property services corresponding to the one or more particular intellectual property matters and one or more fees associated therewith wherein the fees include one or more of:

official fees, and

service fees; and

selecting, responsive to the in-response-to selection by a user, of one or more of the intellectual property services for one or more of the intellectual property matters,

and

initiating, responsive to the user, performance of the selected one or more intellectual property services for one or more of the intellectual property matters, and substantially coincident with performance thereof, transacting the associated one or more fees.
2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the intellectual property services include one or more of paying an annuity or maintenance fee, making an intellectual property filing on behalf of the user, and

preparing and/or filing target jurisdiction- and associate- specific documents for directing and/or effecting the filing and/or payment thereof.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, and substantially coincident with the performance, transacting the associated one or more fees, wherein the fee transacting includes one or more of authorizing a debit of a deposit account, supplying an invoice, and processing the fee via a payment system.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising, for the one or more particular intellectual property matters:

presenting a user with one or more target jurisdictions and one or more respective associates for each of at least a portion of said target jurisdictions, and wherein the one or more fees associated with a particular one or ones of the intellectual property services are further particularized by target jurisdiction and/or said one or more respective associates.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more intellectual property matter is determined responsive to a docket event, further comprising: automatically initiating the providing of information representative of one or more intellectual property services in response to a the docket event for a particular intellectual property matter corresponding thereto.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising: retrieving information characterizing an intellectual property application corresponding to the one or more intellectual property services matters from a data store; and

calculating the associated one or more fees based on provided to the user, including referring to at least a portion of the intellectual property application information to determine the associated one or more fees.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising supplying information encoding the selected one or more intellectual property services and the associated one or more fees for use in an accounting system.

Claims 8 - 10 (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) A method of operating an information service to facilitate fee transactions in connection with the filing of documents and/or payment of fees relating to intellectual property services in one or more target jurisdictions, the method comprising: registering for each of plural associates, at least one target jurisdiction and a computer readable encoding of fees for one or more intellectual property services performed by the associate therein; and

distributing information representative of one or more of the target jurisdictions, and at least a portion of one or[e] more associates registered therefore and corresponding fees, to a user for use in transacting at least one of the intellectual property services using a respective one or ones of the associates; and

determining, responsive to selection by the user of one or more specific matters and of one or more of the target jurisdictions and/or associates, matter-specific fees, including referencing the encoding of fees, and providing, to the user, the matter-specific fees.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11,

wherein the distributing is responsive to selection by the user of one or more of the target jurisdictions and, for each selected target jurisdiction, a respective one or ones of the associates.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11,

wherein the distributing includes supplying, on a periodic basis, to the user, of the computer readable encoding of fees.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11,

wherein the distributing is encoded by a transmittal in at least one computer readable medium selected from the set of a disk, CD-ROM, tape or other magnetic, optical, or electronic storage medium and a network, wireline, wireless or other communications medium.

15. (Previously presented) An information system for transacting fees associated with intellectual property services in connection with the filing of documents and/or payment of fees relative to one or more target jurisdictions, via a network including an originating node and plural target nodes, the target nodes corresponding to associates licensed or otherwise authorized to perform intellectual property services in one or more target jurisdictions, comprising:

an intellectual property service portal coupled by the network to the originating node and one or more of the target nodes, the intellectual property service portal responsive to a selection at the originating node of at least one intellectual property service, supplying the originating node with information representative of one or more fees corresponding to the selected at least one intellectual property service,

the intellectual property service portal further responsive to initiation, from the originating node, of the selected at least one intellectual property service, transacting the one or more fees substantially coincident with the initiation thereof.

16. (Previously presented) The information system of claim 15, wherein for a particular selected target jurisdiction and associate combination, the one or more fees include: one or more official fees for an intellectual property filing in the particular selected target jurisdiction; and one or more service fees of the selected associate for performing the selected at least one intellectual property service.

17. (Original) The information system of claim 15, wherein the originating node includes a computer of a managing attorney or intellectual property owner; and wherein the target nodes include computers of respective associates configured to electronically receive at least partial instructions concerning an intellectual property filing from the managing attorney or intellectual property owner via the intellectual property service portal.

18. (Previously presented) The information system of claim 15, wherein the originating node includes a web browser; wherein the intellectual property service portal includes a web server; and wherein the selection of at least one intellectual property service, the supplying of the information representative of one or more fees, and the transacting of the one or

more fees are achieved, at least in part, using internet protocol traffic between the web browser and the web server.

19. (Previously presented) The information system of claim 15, wherein the intellectual property filing portal is further responsive to registration by the associates of information representative of one or more fees corresponding to the associate; wherein the supplied information representative of one or more fees include those registered by the selected associates.

20. (Original) The information system of claim 15, wherein the network includes one or more of a packet switched network segment, a circuit switched network segment, a public network segment, a private network segment, a public switched telecommunications network segment, and a virtual private network.

21. (Previously presented) A computer program product encoded in a computer readable medium for translating an intellectual property service in connection with the filing of documents and/or payment of fees relative to one or more target jurisdictions, the computer program product comprising:

selection code executable to select from amongst one or more intellectual property services supported by one or more information services therefore and to initiate performance of the selected one or more intellectual property services; and

fee transaction code executable to transact one or more fees associated with the selected one or more intellectual property services substantially coincident with

performance of the one or more intellectual property services by a corresponding one or ones of the information services.

22. (Original) The computer program product of claim 21,

wherein the selection code and the fee transaction code are all executable on a same processor.

23. (Original) The computer program product of claim 21, encoded by or transmitted in at least one computer readable medium selected from the set of a disk, tape or other magnetic, optical, or electronic storage medium and a network, wireline, wireless or other communications medium.

24. (Currently amended) An intellectual property filing preparation system in connection with preparing to file documents and/or to pay fees in one or more target jurisdictions, comprising:

means for selecting from amongst one or more intellectual property services to be performed in one or more target jurisdictions and for selecting at least one intellectual property matter therefor;

means for initiating performance of the selected one or more intellectual property services for the at least one intellectual property matter; and

means for transacting fees substantially coincident with the performance of the selected one or more intellectual property services.

25. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising transacting, substantially coincident with the performance of the selected one or more intellectual property services, the associated one or more fees.

26. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising transacting, prior to the performance of the selected one or more intellectual property services, the associated one or more fees.

27. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more intellectual property matters relate to a plurality of jurisdictions, and wherein the information is further particularized by the one or more intellectual property matters.

28. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising retrieving information characterizing an intellectual property application corresponding to the intellectual property matter from a data store; and at least partially completing target jurisdiction- and associate-specific documents for the services from the retrieved information.

29. (New) The method of claim 11, further comprising registering forms, for each of plural associates, for the at least one jurisdiction, for use in directing the filing of documents and/or payment of fees in the jurisdiction; distributing to a user, responsive to selection of respective one or more associates, at least a portion of the respective forms; and, responsive to receipt of at least partially completed forms from the user, forwarding the at least partially completed forms to the respective one or more associates.

30. (New) The computer program product of claim 21, further comprising instruction code for presenting a user with one or more target jurisdictions and one or more respective associates for each of at least a portion of said target jurisdictions, the one or more fees associated with a particular one or ones of the intellectual property services being further particularized by target jurisdiction and/or said one or more respective associates.

31. (New) A computer implemented method for transacting an intellectual property service in connection with the filing of documents and/or payment of fees for intellectual property matters relative to one or more target jurisdictions, the method comprising:

determining one or more intellectual property matters;

providing a user with information representative of one or more intellectual property services corresponding to the one or more particular intellectual property matters, the one or more target jurisdictions, the one or more respective associates, and one or more fees associated therewith, wherein the fees include one or more of:

official fees, and

service fees;

the one or more fees associated with a particular one or ones of the intellectual property services being particularized by particular intellectual property matter, target jurisdiction and/or said one or more respective associates;

the associated one or more fees provided to the user being calculated, including retrieving information characterizing an intellectual property application corresponding to the one or more intellectual property matters from a data store and referring to at least a portion of the intellectual property application information to determine the associated one or more fees;

selecting, responsive to the user, one or more of the intellectual property services for one or more of the intellectual property matters; and

initiating, responsive to the user, performance of the selected one or more intellectual property services for one or more of the intellectual property matters.

32. (New) A computer program product encoded in a computer readable medium for translating an intellectual property service in connection with the filing of documents and/or payment of fees relative to one or more target jurisdictions, the computer program product comprising:

selection code executable to select from amongst one or more intellectual property services supported by one or more information services therefore and to initiate performance of the selected one or more intellectual property services relative to one or more particular intellectual property matters;

fee transaction code executable to transact one or more fees associated with the selected one or more intellectual property services and one or more particular intellectual property matters substantially coincident with performance of the one or more intellectual property services by a corresponding one or ones of the information services; and

instruction code for presenting a user with one or more target jurisdictions and one or more respective associates for each of at least a portion of said target jurisdictions, the one or more fees associated with a particular one or ones of the intellectual property services being further particularized by target jurisdiction and/or said one or more respective associates, and one or more particular intellectual property matters.